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Sai Mati

Sai Mati is the Janya of Intelligence at every level — from communication and verbal ability to the transcendent Intelligence or wisdom known to the Greeks as Sophia.

The name of her day, Wednesday, derives in English from Woden, the Nordic Mercury. The name (with B for W/V) is equivalent to Sanskrit Buddha, meaning the planet Mercury and its deity, while buddhi (feminine) is the word for intellect. The term Buddha (meaning the Enlightened One) also comes from this, as does the Bodhi-tree (or Tree of Wisdom) under which the Buddha's enlightenment took place. Woden, who gave up one of his eyes to the great Goddess in return for wisdom, henceforth was possessed of the Single Eye which sees not the dualities of the manifest world, but the unitive Truth that lies behind them. This myth depicts the ascetic sacrifice of the worldly senses necessary to attain the vision of pure gnosis or jnana.

Thus Sai Mati, at her highest level, represents pure Intellect: that knowledge which forms the basis of all our understanding, which cuts through the veil of ignorance (*avidya*), which maintains the illusion of the material world, and shows us the realities that lie behind that world. Such a Sophianic vision may operate at various levels. At one level we see beyond the outward forms of earthly things to the pure Forms or Archetypes that in-form them. At a higher level one sees even beyond the Archetypes to the non-dual Reality that underlies them. Yet even at the lowest level of earthly reason (which is governed by Sai Candre) the axioms on which our reasoning are based are derived wholly from Sophianic Intelligence.

At this point it will be noted that Sai Mati, at her highest level, embodies that Intellect which we have termed Solar. This is why her colour is yellow, that of sunlight (also why Buddhist nuns wear saffron robes). It is said that while Sai Vikhë embodies the *heat* of Sai Raya, Sai Mati embodies her *light*.

Sri Saraswati, who governs learning, study and intelligence is often taken as a figure of Sai Mati, though because of her musical nature she also embodies elements proper to Sai Thamë.

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